INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2141-CVD

DATE: June 2, 2020

TO: All Iowa Medicaid Providers

APPLIES TO: Coronavirus Disease (CVD)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: COVID-19 Testing Available to Uninsured Individuals

EFFECTIVE: June 1, 2020

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) created a new Medicaid eligibility group for uninsured individuals. The new eligibility group, COVID-19 Testing, will provide a limited benefit package of services related to just testing and diagnosis of COVID-19 during the public health emergency. Services for treatment of COVID-19 will not be covered for the new eligibility group.

Effective June 1, 2020, the IME will begin enrolling individuals in the COVID-19 Testing Group and will continue enrolling eligible individuals throughout the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Uninsured individuals living in Iowa that wish to be tested for COVID-19, are encouraged to complete Form 470-5618[1]: Application for COVID-19 Testing Coverage, to be tested for COVID-19 at no cost. Individuals are encouraged to complete the application electronically via the DHS website[2]. Applications also may be submitted by mail, fax or telephone. Individuals can complete an application over the phone by calling the DHS Contact Center at 1-855-889-7985. To submit an application by mail or fax, individuals need to print the application from the DHS website[3] and submit it by fax at 515-725-1351 or mail it to the following address:

> IME Member Services
> PO Box 36510
> Des Moines, IA 50315

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[1] https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/dhs_titan_public/covid/application
[2] https://dhs.iowa.gov/COVID19
[3] https://dhs.iowa.gov/COVID19

An application for COVID-19 Testing Coverage is the only requirement eligible individuals will need to complete. There are no income or resources requirements when applying. Coverage will begin on the first day of the month in which an application is submitted, but no earlier than June 1, 2020. Coverage will end on the last day of the month in which the COVID-19 public health emergency ends.

Current Medicaid members, with services provided through a Managed Care Organization (MCO) or through Fee-for-Service, are already eligible for COVID-19 testing as part of their benefit package and do not need to complete an application for COVID-19 testing.

Individuals are eligible for the COVID-19 Testing Group if they meet all of the following requirements:

- Are an Iowa resident.

- Provide a social security number (SSN) or proof of application for a SSN or a valid reason for not having a SSN.

- Are a U.S. citizen or have an eligible immigration status.

- Are uninsured.

Individuals determined ineligible for the COVID-19 Testing Group due to not meeting eligible immigration requirements will receive limited Medicaid for emergency services coverage for the duration of the COVID public health emergency period; provision of form 470-4299, *Verification of Emergency Health Care Services*, is not required for limited emergency under this coverage group.

For the COVID-19 Testing Group, an individual is uninsured if they:

- Are not eligible to receive coverage under a mandatory Medicaid group.

- Are not enrolled in Medicaid (except for enrollment only in the Family Planning Program or Medically Needy.)

- Are not enrolled in another health program funded by the federal government. This includes, but is not limited to, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), TRICARE, Medicare, and Veterans Administration).

- Are not enrolled in another health insurance plan.

All individuals who apply for the COVID-19 Testing Group will receive a notice in the mail letting them know whether they were approved.

An application for the COVID-19 Testing Group does not serve as an application for additional Medicaid benefits. Individuals must complete and submit an

Application for Health Coverage and Help Paying Costs[4] to apply for Medicaid.

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[4] https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/470-5170.pdf

Effective with dates of service on or after June 1, 2020, providers can submit claims for COVID-19 related testing and diagnosis services for the COVID-19 Testing Group to the IME through the regular claims process. Providers should submit a claim using the individual's SSN in lieu of the state identification number assigned to Medicaid members.

COVID-19 coding guidance related to Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes for payment for laboratory tests and specimen collection for the detection of SARS-COV-2 or the diagnosis of the virus that causes COVID-19 can be found in Informational Letter 2130-MC-FFS-CVD[5].

If you have questions, please contact the DHS Contact Center at 1-855-889-7985.

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[5] https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/2130-MC-FFS-CVD_COVID-19_Updates.pdf